



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

BOOK REVIEW

The life and work of George Sylvester Morris. By R. M. WENLEY.
New York, Macmillan Co., 1917. 332 p.

The author is the successor of Professor Morris, who died twenty-five years ago, and this book is a labor of love. The author has taken endless pains to investigate everything connected with the subject of this memoir. A more exhaustive biography, and we may add a more appreciative one, has rarely been written. George Morris was a pioneer student of the history of philosophy in this country, a careful though not so very voluminous author, a musician of rare talent, who throughout his life gave great attention to this art, the translator of "Ueberweg," to which he added a great deal of material of his own. He might be in a new sense called a spiritual man. The Hegelism of his earlier and the Kantianism of his later life he had made so intimate a part of his own personality that it was very hard for him to discuss such themes with those whose standpoint differed from his own. To have traced the Morris lines back to the Pilgrims, to have dug up the details of his New England home, school and college life, early manhood, his experiences in the war, at Dartmouth, at Union Theological Seminary, at John Hopkins and Michigan, where most of his later life was spent, to have traced the origin, transition and final stage of his intellectual history and to have depicted the man and teacher so vividly, is a real service to the history of culture in this country. One can truly say that of all the many good fortunes that could befall such a man, the greatest is to have so worthy, eminent and loyal a biographer. Morris himself was naturally modest and retiring. He was in some sense an esthetic soul, who loved philosophy because of the personal satisfaction he derived from this study. Moreover, he lived at a time when in this country his studies met with very scant appreciation, save by the few, so that much of the best that he did and wrote had already begun to be forgotten, and it is a splendid act of mere justice, to say the least that can be said of it, to set his life and doctrine forth in the new, fresh way in which they are here presented. Possibly (and this is the only criticism that anyone could make of his work) the author at times takes too much pains and goes into too minute details, e. g., concerning Morris' early life and relatives. But in a work written in the environment in which Morris so long lived, and in closest contact with the surviving members of his family, as it was, this cannot be called a blemish. The writer of this note cannot recall the name of a single American thinker who has had so splendid a biography. Indeed, this is so good that the name of Morris will always be associated with that of Wenley. The book ought to inspire others who have the now rather dwindling faculty of appreciation, to give us similar memoirs of James, Royce, Münsterberg, Charles Pierce, and perhaps we might add William T. Harris; but nothing of any of these or others who might be named has ever been attempted on such a scale.